



THE City of Port Elizabeth tied up at Newcastle Quay today.

Ship and its crew made redundant

THE entire 184-man crew and the captain of a cargo passenger ship which is docked in the Tyne, have been made redundant.

They arrived on the 11,350-ton City of Port Elizabeth which has just made her last voyage from South Africa. Captain George Greenhow, who is also being prematurely retired, said:

"We don't know what is happening to the crew or the ship.

"The ship will stay berthed in the Tyne until she is either scrapped or sold."

The 142 Indians in the crew are being flown back to Calcutta, where they will be officially paid off. Ellerman Lines Ltd, the ship owners, are paying their fares. The rest of the crew, Europeans, are being paid off on Monday.

The City of Port Elizabeth, at present in Spillers docks, will be moved up the river to await a buyer.

Since the ship was built at Vickers' Walker Naval Yard in 1932 it has been returning to the Tyne every 11 weeks with different types of cargo.

Captain Greenhow, aged 61, who has been captain of the ship for the past five years said: "We only heard about this in Las Palmas three weeks ago. Since then the voyage was very unhappy for me and the crew."

The Port of Tyne Authority said: "It is very rare that a ship comes here to be sold. The Ellerman Line will probably advertise her for sale all over the world."

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